

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 03839 101608Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2289

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3839

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

REF: A) AMMAN 3816, B) STATE 159150

1. AT THE END OF DISCUSSIONS WITH CODEL HAMILTON
TODAY I INFORMED KING HUSSEIN OF YOUR INTENTION TO
VISIT THE AREA, GAVE HIM THE APPROXIMATE
TIME PERIOD, AND ASKED ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE CONFLICTS.
THE KING SAID THAT HE HOPED HE COULD KNOW AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE ABOUT YOUR TRIP PLANS BUT ADDED NOTHING
FURTHER.

2. AFTER THAT HURRIED MEETING COURT CHIEF SHARAF
DISCUSSED THE QUESTION WITH ME. IT NOW SEEMS THAT
UNBEKNOWNST TO HIS PEOPLE HERE KING HAS DECIDED TO
VISIT GULF STATES BETWEEN JULY 11 AND JULY 25. THAT
HAS PUSHED OFF HIS PLANS TO VISIT IRAN FOR 4-5 DAYS
UNTIL THE PERIOD BETWEEN JULY 25 AND HIS JUBILEE
CELEBRATIONS BEGINNING ON AUGUST 9 AND 10.

3. SHARAF ASSURED ME THAT KING GREATLY LOOKED
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FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND WOULD ADJUST HIS PLANS
IN ACCORD WITH YOUR OWN SCHEDULE. HE WAS INSISTENT
THAT KING COULD PUT OFF TRIP TO IRAN IF NECESSARY
AND HE CONSIDERED IT MOST IMPORTANT TO SEE YOU
HERE WHENEVER YOU WANTED TO COME.

4. WE LEFT IT THAT I WOULD INFORM YOU OF THE

KING'S PLANS AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE WOULD
APPRECIATE HAVING A BLOCK OF 5 DAYS OR SO IN WHICH
TO VISIT IRAN BETWEEN SAY JULY 26 AND AUGUST 9.
SHARAF AGAIN INSISTED THAT ANY TIME THAT YOU WANTED
TO COME WOULD BE ALL RIGHT.

5. COMMENT: JORDANIANS KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT
WILL BE TO SCHEDULE YOUR TRIP AND DO VERY MUCH WANT
TO FACILITATE YOUR VISIT IN EVERY WAY. HOWEVER, IF TIME
COULD BE ALLOWED FOR KING'S TRIP TO IRAN ON BASIS ABOVE IT
WOULD BE A CONSIDERATE GESTURE.
PICKERING

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